

# PATENT SPECIFICATION

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## PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

### Improvements in Scholars' Bags or Satchels

I, THOMAS HARRY MYATT, a British Subject, of Safeguard Works, Cecil Street, Walsall, in the County of Stafford, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention has reference to improvements in scholars' bags or satchels.

It is the general practice to provide scholars' bags or satchels with a strap which permits the bag either to be slung from one shoulder or to be positioned on the back and supported by passing the loop of the strap under the armpits and then over the head so that the said loop rests on the nape of the neck. The use of the strap as a sling is not too comfortable in practice as such a means of support is conducive to a swinging of the bag or satchel and with the alternative method of using the strap referred to above the carriage of the wearer is usually affected, and furthermore the strap is found to cut into the neck when the bag or satchel is heavily loaded.

The present invention has for its object the provision of an improved scholars' bag or satchel which is not susceptible to the disadvantages hereinbefore referred to and which furthermore is durable and efficient in use.

The invention consists of an improved scholar's bag or satchel which is characterised by a suspension means incorporating a centrally disposed strap which is secured at its lower end to the bag or satchel and branching shoulder straps which have a pivotal or analogous connection to the free end of the aforesaid centrally disposed strap said shoulder straps also being attached to the bag or satchel so as to be capable of being looped round the shoulders when the bag or satchel is being carried on the back of the user.

The invention further resides in the details of construction of the improved scholars' bag or satchel to be described hereinafter.

According to a convenient embodiment of the invention the improved scholars' bag or satchel comprises a stitched leather main bag or satchel portion for containing books which is closed by a flap which folds

over the front of the bag or satchel and which is provided adjacent each end with a strap said straps co-operating with buckles carried by leather tabs which are sewn to the front of the bag or satchel portion. The aforesaid closure flap is also provided adjacent its free end with a longitudinally arranged strip of metal which is enclosed within a pocket formed by sewing on to the underside of the flap a strip of leather the said metal strip reinforcing the edge of the flap and preventing curling of the edges. The strip of leather sewn on the underside of the flap is covered at the central portion with a short length of pigskin or like leather which can readily be written upon thus providing a means for marking the bag with the name and address of the owner. Intermediate the buckles the front of the bag or satchel has sewn thereto an expanding pouch or pocket the mouth of which is closed by a sliding clasp fastener. Sewn to the central portion of the front of the bag or satchel, and preferably obscured by the upper portion of the bag or the expanding pouch or pocket is the lower and broader end of a flat leather strap of a substantially truncated triangular shape. The upper end of this flat strap is looped over and attached to a metal ring which is capable of turning relatively to the loop at the upper end of the central strap. Secured to this ring but movable relatively thereto are shoulder straps which are attached to the said ring by looping the ends over the ring and securing the loops by means of rivets and stitching. The said shoulder straps branch outwardly from the ring and are passed through side rings carried by tabs which are rivetted and stitched to the back of the bag or satchel adjacent the ends thereof and substantially midway between the top and bottom of the back of the bag or satchel. The ends of the shoulder straps which are passed through the said side rings are secured to buckles of known kind which are slidably mounted on the respective intermediate portions of the shoulder straps said slidable buckles permitting the adjustment of the effective length of the shoulder straps as required.

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In use after the adjustment of the effective length of the shoulder straps to suit the particular individual the user slips the arms through the looped shoulder straps so that the bag rests on the back of the user with the flat strap substantially vertical, the attachment of the shoulder straps to the flat central strap by means of a ring permitting the shoulder straps automatically accommodating themselves to the back of the particular user thus ensuring comfort in use.

Furthermore, the pull on the central strap due to this strap being secured to the outer side of the bag or satchel portion ensures that the bag or satchel is pulled firmly on to the back of the wearer again ensuring comfort in use.

Moreover it should be pointed out that by passing the shoulder straps through rings fixed to the back of the bag or satchel the shoulder straps are enabled to twist so as to lie edgewise at the parts which pass under the armpits of the user.

In addition it should be observed that the improved details of construction provide for a scholars' bag or satchel which is hard wearing and efficient in use and which may be carried in the hand with the straps as a handle if required.

Dated this 1st September, 1938.

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

### Improvements in Scholars' Bags or Satchels

I, THOMAS HARRY MYATT, a British Subject, of Safeguard Works, Cecil Street, Walsall, in the County of Stafford, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention has reference to improvements in scholars' bags or satchels.

It is the general practice to provide scholars' bags or satchels with a strap which permits the bag either to be slung from one shoulder or to be positioned on the back and supported by passing the loop of the strap under the armpits and then over the head so that the said loop rests on the nape of the neck. The use of the strap as a sling is not too comfortable in practice as such a means of support is conducive to a swinging of the bag or satchel and with the alternative method of using the strap referred to above the carriage of the wearer is usually affected, and furthermore the strap is found to cut into the neck when the bag or satchel is heavily loaded.

It has been proposed however in school bags of the so called "rugzak" type which are worn on the back and retained in position by means of two straps, the upper ends of these straps being secured to the back of the bag and the straps being adapted to pass over the shoulders and thence under the arms and to have their lower ends secured at a convenient distance apart to the bottom of the bag, to extend the back of the bag upwardly above the back proper for the purpose of providing a higher point of attachment for the shoulder straps whereby the bag is prevented from sagging when secured in

place on the wearer's back and rests comfortably there while retaining its shape whether full or emptied, the extension being formed in one piece or if desired of a separate piece of material secured to the back in any approved manner and carrying at its upper end a ring to which the upper ends of the straps are secured, the lower ends of the straps being fixed as usual to the bottom of the bag.

In my opinion however, a bag constructed in accordance with the foregoing prior proposal does not provide for the bag being pulled firmly on to the back of the wearer, nor for the easy twisting of the straps where they pass under the armpits of the user, and the present invention has for its object the provision of an improved scholars' bag or satchel which is not susceptible to the disadvantages hereinbefore referred to and which furthermore is durable and efficient in use.

According to the invention the improved scholars' bag or satchel incorporates a centrally disposed strap secured at its lower end to the front of the bag or satchel, a ring carried by the upper end of said strap, branching shoulder straps anchored to said ring at their upper ends so as to permit of movement taking place between the shoulder straps and said ring and rings for anchoring the lower ends of the shoulder straps to the back of the bag or satchel.

The invention further resides in the details of construction of the improved scholars' bag or satchel to be described hereinafter.

A convenient embodiment of the invention will now be described with particular reference to the accompanying sheet of drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view from the front of the improved scholars' bag or satchel, and

5 Figure 2 is a perspective view from the rear of the bag or satchel illustrated in Figure 1.

According to the embodiment of the invention illustrated the improved scholars' bag or satchel comprises a stitched leather main bag or satchel portion 3 for containing books which is closed by a flap 3<sup>a</sup> which folds over the front of the bag or satchel portion 3 and which is provided adjacent each end with a strap 4 said straps 4 co-operating with buckles 5 carried by leather tabs 6 which are sewn to the front of the bag or satchel portion 3. The aforesaid closure flap 3<sup>a</sup> is also provided adjacent its free end with a longitudinally arranged strip of metal 7 which is enclosed within a pocket formed by sewing on to the underside of the flap 3<sup>a</sup> a strip of leather 8 the said metal strip 7 reinforcing the edge of the flap 3<sup>a</sup> and preventing curling of the edges. The strip of leather 8 which is sewn on the underside of the flap 3<sup>a</sup> is covered at the central portion with a short length of pigskin or like leather not shown, which can readily be written upon thus providing a means for marking the bag with the name and address of the owner. Intermediate the buckles 5 the front of the bag or satchel portion 3 has sewn thereto an expanding pouch or pocket 9 the mouth of which is closed by a sliding clasp fastener 10. Sewn to the central portion of the front of the bag or satchel portion 3, and preferably obscured by the upper portion of the bag or the expanding pouch or pocket 9 is the lower and broader end of a flat leather strap 11 of a substantially truncated triangular shape. The upper end of this flap strap 11 is looped over and attached to a metal ring 12 which is capable of turning relatively to the loop at the upper end of the central strap 11. Secured to this ring 12 but movable relatively thereto are shoulder straps 13 which are attached to the said ring by looping the ends over the ring 12 and securing the loops by means of rivets and stitching. The said shoulder straps 13 branch outwardly from the ring 12 and are passed through side rings 14 carried by tabs 15 which are riveted and stitched to the back of the bag or satchel portion 3 adjacent the ends thereof and substantially midway between the top and bottom of the back of the bag or satchel portion 3. The ends of the shoulder straps 13 which are passed through the said side rings 14 are secured to buckles 16 of known kind which are slidably mounted on the respective intermediate portions of the shoulder straps 13

said slidable buckles 16 permitting the adjustment of the effective length of the shoulder straps as required.

In use after the adjustment of the effective length of the shoulder straps 13 to suit the particular individual the user slips the arms through the looped shoulder straps 13 so that the bag rests on the back of the user with the flat central strap 11 substantially vertical, the attachment of the shoulder straps 13 to the flat central strap 11 by means of a ring 12 permitting the shoulder straps 13 automatically accommodating themselves to the back of the particular user thus ensuring comfort in use.

Furthermore, the pull on the central strap 11 due to this strap being secured to the outer side of the bag or satchel portion 3 ensures that the bag or satchel is pulled firmly on to the back of the wearer again ensuring comfort in use.

Moreover, it should be pointed out that by passing the shoulder straps 13 through rings 14 fixed to the back of the bag or satchel portion 3 the shoulder straps 13 are enabled to twist so as to lie edgewise at the parts which pass under the armpits of the user.

In addition it should be observed that the improved details of construction provide for a scholars' bag or satchel which is hard wearing and efficient in use and which may be carried in the hand with the straps as a handle if required.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A scholars' bag or satchel having a centrally disposed strap secured at its lower end to the front of the bag or satchel, a ring carried by the upper end of said strap, branching shoulder straps anchored to said ring at their upper ends so as to permit of movement taking place between the shoulder straps and said ring and rings for anchoring the lower ends of the shoulder straps to the back of the bag or satchel.

2. A scholars' bag or satchel according to Claim 1 wherein the shoulder straps incorporate means for adjusting the effective length thereof.

3. A scholars' bag or satchel according to Claim 1, in which the rings for the anchorage of the lower ends of the shoulder straps are carried by tabs which are riveted and stitched to the back of the bag or satchel.

4. A scholars' bag or satchel according to Claim 1, wherein the lower end of the central strap is stitched to the front of the bag or satchel and wherein the stitching

